

Abstract

A method and system for initiating selective flow control within a network multiplexer. Each port of a network multiplexer is associated with high and low threshold values, as well as a list of indications of ports that have requested the port to initiate flow control and a list of indications of ports which the port has requested to initiate flow control. A port that, by queuing a message descriptor to the transmit queue of a destination port, causes the number of message descriptors queued to the transmit queue of a destination port to equal or exceed its high threshold, is flow controlled by the destination port. When the number of message descriptors queued to the transmit queue of a destination port that previously equaled or exceeded the high threshold falls below the low threshold, all ports flow controlled by the destination ports are released from flow control.